responsibility of the State Government to take necessary restoration and rehabilitation measures. Transportation of relief materials free of cost was arranged. Various Central Ministries/Departments took appropriate measures to assist the State Government. Central share of Calamity Relief Fund to the State for 1999-2000 amounting to Rs. 42.50 crore and assistance of Rs. 828.15 crore from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) were released. Questions pertaining to Prime Minister's National Relief Fund are not admissible under relevant Rules since the corpus of this fund is constituted entirely with voluntary public contribution and not from any allocation out of the Consolidated Fund of India and disbursements from the fund are entirely at the discretion of the Prime Minister. The State Government has already set up the Orissa State Disaster Mitigation Authority. The press cutting of 8th March, 2000 has been sent to the State Government for appropriate action.

Lifting Price Control on Fertilizers

2933. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are planning to lift all pricing control on all pricing control on all kinds of fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what will be the status of subsidy on fertilizers after lifting the control on pricing ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) to (c) All varieties of fertilisers other than urea are already free from price, movement and distribution control. The Government intend moving towards a deregulated regime in all the three types of fertilisers, i.e., nitrogen, phosphatic and potassic, after taking into account fiscal sustainability on the one hand and the necessity of making available fertilisers to the farmers at a reasonable price on the other. Towards this end, it is proposed to formulate a long term policy for the fertiliser sector which would include, inter-alia, the Government's decision on the recommendations of the High Powered Review Committee on Fertiliser Pricing Policy.